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REMARKS

The undersigned requests a personal interview with the Examiner in charge of this application.

Claim 13 was objected to as being informal. The informality has been corrected.

Claims 1, 2, 11, and 14-17 were rejected as being either anticipated by or as being unpatentable over Matsumoto.

Claims 4-6, 8-10, 12, 13, 18 and presumably 21 were rejected as being unpatentable over Matsumoto.

Claims 3 and 7 were rejected as being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Tanaka et al.

Claim 19 was rejected as being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Kim.

Claim 20 was rejected as being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Jung.

Claim 22 was rejected as being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Wunsch.

Claim 23 was rejected as being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Handelman.

Claim 24 was rejected as being unpatentable over Matsumoto in view of Mauch.

Matsumoto discloses a recording/playback apparatus which receives data from an information center. The recording/playback apparatus has a remote 50 which is removably attached to the recording/playback apparatus. The remote can be employed to download music, for example, from the recording/playback apparatus so that an individual can listen

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to the music while carrying only the remote. While only a direct connection between the remote and the recording/playback apparatus is described, the patentee does mention in col. 8, lines 56-60 that there can be wireless communication between the two, as in the present invention.

The present invention differs from Matsumoto in a number of important ways, including that the screen on the remote unit in the present invention is the interactive screen both for the remote unit and the base unit. In Matsumoto, the base unit has its own display screen and the remote has its own. The effect of this difference is that in the present invention, the remote unit can be used for control over the full operation of the base unit whether the remote unit is mounted in the base unit or is at a remote location. This important feature of the present invention is not taught or suggested in Matsumoto nor does it appear to be taught in any of the references of record.

Tanaka has imaging capturing apparatus and was cited for the speaker which broadcasts instructions to the user.

Kim shows a cordless telephone system and was cited for the ID system.

Jung describes a remotely controlled computer system and was cited for the use of a remote in a PC to control the PC. Presumably the control by the remote is supplemental to the controls on the PC. The exact relevance of this reference to the present invention is not entirely clear.

Wunsch seems to be cited for the alphanumeric key pad.

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Handelman was cited for the use of a voice activated system.

Mauch was cited for the central station sending information to indicate that an incorrect ID has been received.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the touch screen display in the portable unit functions as the sole interactive display for the base unit. As noted above, this feature does not appear to be suggested or taught in the art of record.

Depending claim 16 has been amended to recite the location of the recess for the portable unit and details of the use of tab 62 shown in Fig. 3 and described beginning in page 24 of the specification. This feature is not shown anywhere in the art of record.

Claim 17 has been amended to depend from 16 and include the feature that the speaker on the portable unit is hidden and disconnected when the portable unit is in its recess. This feature is not found in Matsumoto.

Claim 18 drawn to the system including the central station has been amended to recite the portable unit within the control device having the display for the control device. As mentioned earlier, the art does not show this feature.

Beginning in page 7 of the Office Action, in connection with claim 7, where it is claimed that the memory card has a rechargeable battery, the Examiner states that it would be obvious to provide such a memory card because of Matsumoto's teaching of a PCMIA port. It is not clear that such a memory card would carry its own rechargeable battery.

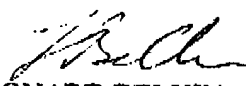
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In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the claims in their present form appear to distinguish over the art of record and should be allowed.

A conscientious effort has been made to place this application in condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned or Mr. Kroll if further changes are required to obtain allowance of the application.

A favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF FAXING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, telephone number 703-872-9306 on July 29, 2004.


Leonard Belkin